

Missouri
Department of
Natural Resources

RECREATIONAL USE ATTAINABILITY ANALYSES
PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comment Period
May 21, 2008 – August 31, 2008

Little Beaver Creek
WBID #1529

Class C
Phelps County

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Water Protection Program
PO Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176
800-361-4827 / 573-751-1300

Reader questions agency's stance

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By Carolyn Foster

The Rolla Daily News

Thu Jul 03, 2008, 11:09 PM CDT

Rolla, Mo. -

Dear Editor,

I've just finished reading your article in the Rolla Daily News about the DNR's decision to include Little Beaver Creek on a list of water bodies exempt from the federal Clean Water Act.

I grew up and still live near Little Beaver Creek. Years ago we swam and fished the creek. Even today you will find people wading and fishing off the bridge most weekends.

It is my understanding that the DNR was formed to help us be good stewards of our natural resources. Please explain to me how allowing bacteria laden water or pollutants from "other facilities" into Beaver Creek is good stewardship. Would the fish be edible? Would there be any fish? How about the deer that drink from the creek - would their meat be safe?

We've seen several generations of herons living in the creek and a few years ago there were actually beavers living there. We have families with children that live along the creek and a large dairy farm that the creek runs through.

A new waste-water treatment plant was just completed and put to use near the creek. We were told the water from that plant would be clean water. This is the time to ensure that the creek water is bacteria and pollutant free! This is what the mission of the Department of Natural Resources is about. Little Beaver Creek, or any of our Missouri streams, should NOT be exempt from the Federal Clean Water Act.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Foster

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Little Beaver Creek is worthy

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By Robert K. Morrison
The Rolla Daily News
Fri Jul 25, 2008, 11:39 PM CDT

Rolla, Mo. -

Dear Editor:

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources appreciates the public response concerning the Recreational Use Attainability Analysis, or UAA, for Tributary to Little Beaver Creek in Phelps County. The department would like to provide information regarding the UAA and staff recommendation. Tributary to Little Beaver Creek is a small classified water that flows southwest from Rolla until its confluence with Little Beaver Creek below Gollahon Spring. In 2005, Tributary to Little Beaver Creek received a UAA, which determined it can not because of its shallow depth support whole body contact recreation, or swimming, use. A follow-up UAA was conducted in 2007 to confirm the use was indeed unattainable. The results confirmed that whole body contact recreation was not attainable, but secondary contact recreation, such as fishing and wading, was an existing use that must be protected. The results of the UAA and staff recommendations are available for comment on the department's Web site at http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/wqstandards/uaa/uaa_county.htm. Many of the comments received pertain to Little Beaver Creek, not to the Tributary to Little Beaver Creek. Little Beaver Creek flows south from just north of Interstate 44 to its confluence with Beaver Creek approximately 4.4 miles to the south. Little Beaver Creek, which receives a discharge from the Rolla Southwest wastewater treatment facility, is not the subject of the current UAA. The whole body contact recreation use designation will remain for Little Beaver Creek, and the treatment facility will continue to have to disinfect its effluent to meet bacteria criteria. Comments received regarding existing whole body contact recreation uses on Little Beaver Creek will be recorded to ensure future protection of these uses.

The Department of Natural Resources is committed to protecting the public who recreate in our streams. To this end, the department has extended the comment period until Aug. 31. We encourage those who recreate in this segment to submit comments via our stream use survey at [HYPERLINK "http://www.dnr.mo.gov"](http://www.dnr.mo.gov) www.dnr.mo.gov, by e-mail to [HYPERLINK "mailto:cleanwater@dnr.mo.gov"](mailto:cleanwater@dnr.mo.gov) cleanwater@dnr.mo.gov or by mail to UAA Coordinator, Water Protection Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

Sincerely,
Robert K. Morrison, P.E.
Chief, Water Pollution Control Branch

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Comments (0)

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"Foster, Carolyn S."
<cfoster@mst.edu>

07/02/2008 11:58 AM

To john.hoke@dnr.mo.gov

cc

bcc

Subject Little Beaver Creek in Phelps County

Sir:

I've just finished reading an editorial in our Rolla Daily News about the DNR's decision to include Little Beaver Creek on a list of water bodies exempt from the federal Clean Water Act.

I grew up and still live near Little Beaver. Years ago we swam and fished the creek. Even today, you will find people wading and fishing off the bridge most weekends.

It is my understanding that the DNR was formed to help us be good stewards of our natural resources. Please explain to me how allowing bacteria laden water or pollutants from "other facilities" into Beaver Creek is good stewardship. Would the fish be edible? Would there even be any fish? How about the deer that drink from the creek - would their meat be safe?

A new waste-water treatment plant was just completed and put to use near the creek. This is the time to ensure that the creek water is bacteria and pollutant free! This is what the mission of the Department of Natural Resources is about.

I implore you to NOT allow the exemption of Little Beaver Creek from the Clean Water Act. Thank you, Carolyn Foster, Rolla, Missouri



"Foster, Carolyn S."
<cfoster@mst.edu>

08/28/2008 08:02 PM

To "Anne Peery" <anne.peery@dnr.mo.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject RE: Comment on Little Beaver Creek

I live on County Road 7050 (also known as Falkenrath Road) on the west side of the creek. We use a low water bridge about ¼ mile from Martin Spring Drive (County Road 7000) to cross Little Beaver Creek. I've never heard of the Tributary to Little Beaver until now and am not sure where it is. Our children are grown and gone now and we don't go down there as much as we used to. There are families with children farther down our road to the south.

From: Anne Peery [mailto:anne.peery@dnr.mo.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, August 27, 2008 1:00 PM

To: Foster, Carolyn S.

Subject: Comment on Little Beaver Creek

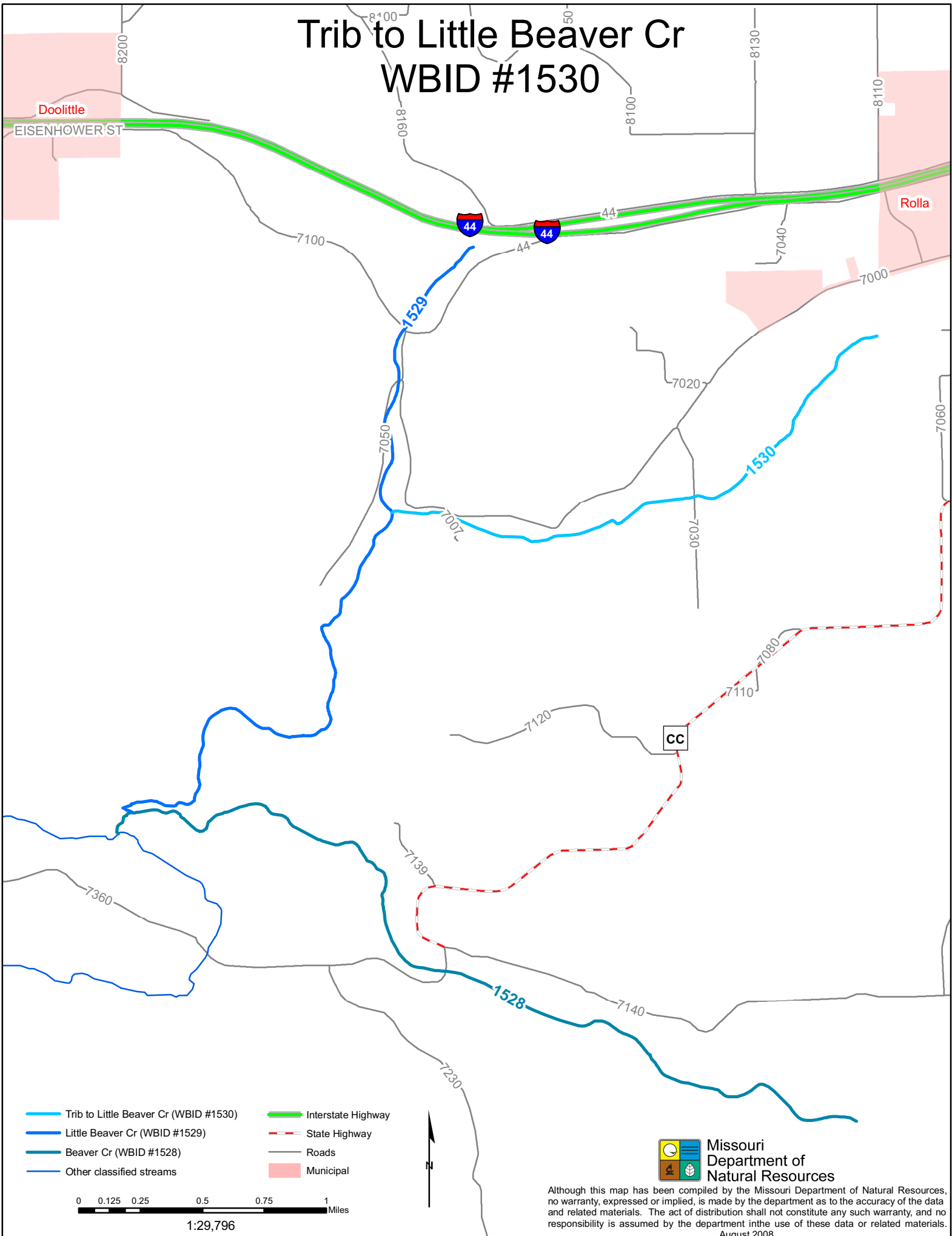
Ms. Foster,

I'm following up on comments you provided regarding Little Beaver Creek. Below is a copy of your comments for your reference. Your comments are appreciated, however if possible I would like to get a more detailed location of where or which part of the creek your family and friends use for recreating. In particular, I need to know if you recreate on Little Beaver, or the Tributary to Little Beaver, which joins L. Beaver between FR 7050 and 7007 (if I read my map right). I am available via telephone Monday through Friday from 7:30am - 4:00pm. I also have voicemail and e-mail available if you cannot contact me during those times.

Thanks again for your comments and I look forward to hearing from you.

Anne Peery
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Developer
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Water Protection Program
573-526-1426
anne.peery@dnr.mo.gov

Trib to Little Beaver Cr WBID #1530



- Trib to Little Beaver Cr (WBID #1530)
- Little Beaver Cr (WBID #1529)
- Beaver Cr (WBID #1528)
- Other classified streams
- Interstate Highway
- State Highway
- Roads
- Municipal

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

1:29,796



Missouri
Department of
Natural Resources

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August 2008



"Paul Strong"
<pstrong@embarqmail.com>

07/04/2008 12:40 PM

To john.hoke@dnr.mo.gov

cc "Steve Sowers" <sesowers@rollanet.org>

bcc

Subject Clean Water Act Exemption for Little Beaver Creek

While we are upstream landowners in the Little Beaver Creek watershed with two beautiful spring-fed creeks which empty into it, we are also downstream users in Newburg on the Little Piney River where we and our children swim and fish weekly in the summer. We are concerned about the exemption from CWA standards for any business or government entity which discharges water into watercourses leading into the Little Piney River.

It seems to us that Missouri should be prudent and cautious in its approach to release of potentially harmful substances and organisms into its waters. If conditions ever worsened to the point at which there were human health concerns for swimming or fishing, it would be a great loss and far more expensive to clean up than the current cost to prevent it.

We don't understand what the benefit to the public would be under this proposed exemption. How is the State taking action to protect its citizens through this action? It seems to us there is probably enough bacteria entering Little Beaver Creek from land uses in upper reaches of the watershed.

We have lived in areas where public waters are closed in the summer due to high bacteria counts and smell so bad that they are not enjoyable to visit. We moved to rural Missouri in part to enjoy the abundant and clean creeks and rivers here.

Please consider this comment as an urging for caution and for clean water for the generations to come. It would be a terrible shame to find any parts of a creek or river unusable in hot summer months for a cool dip, fishing, or catching crawdads when a reasonable alternative could be taken to prevent it.

Waters entering the tributary entering Little Beaver Creek should not be exempt from Clean Water Act standards in an effort to preserve it and the downstream waters for current and future users.

Paul and Donna Strong
Gaddy Road (14450 CR 8100)
Rolla



"Charles D. Morris"
<cdmorris@m3engr.com>

07/07/2008 05:43 PM

To john.hoke@dnr.mo.gov

cc

bcc

Subject Little Beaver Creek exemption

John,

I do not understand why MDNR is even considering an exemption for this creek as people do wade , swim, fish in this stream or downstream streams. Also, our congress passed the Clean Water Act that requires these standards to be met, is it because of the cost of dechlorination treatment system or replacing the chlorine disinfection system with an ozonation treatment system at the sewage treatment plant? I am a professional engineer and professor at the University and have for many years tried to convince the City to use a pump station at the south west plant and only have one treatment plant which makes the additional treatment systems less costly. But, they are more concerned about the maintenance of the pump station than the cost of constructing and operating multiple plants. I think disinfection should be required as the law requires. I am dismayed that MDNR would even request that the Missouri Clean Water Commission grant an exemption because the City does not want to spend the money to properly treat the effluent from its treatment facility. Why have a law if we are going to allow exemptions to save money? Why shouldn't other Cities get the same treatment? I don't understand MDNR's motivation behind such a request! Please do not let this happen. Please call me as I need to talk with you about this. My cell # is 573-578-9773.

Charles D. Morris, PhD, PE
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